

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1 and 3-28 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 12-14 and 26-28 are amended. Claim 2 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the Office Action dated November 22, 2004, claims 1 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Zadeh et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,522,111. Claims 15-26 and 28 are allowable. Claims 2-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Allowed Claims 15-26 and 28

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating the allowance of claims 15-26 and 28. Applicant further notes that claims 26 and 28 have been amended to depend from claim 15.

Allowable Claims 2-14

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 2-14. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2. Claims 12-14 have been rewritten in independent form, as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-14 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

The dependency of claim 27 has been changed to depend from claim 15, and its rejection is believed to be moot.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 12/2/04

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